

Representative Steven Arndt

Ohio House of Representatives, 89th House District

Chair Balderson, Vice-Chair Jordan, Ranking Member O'Brien, and Committee: Thank you for giving Rep. Patton and myself the time to talk to you about HB 84, designating June as "Ohio Goes Boating" Month.

Now many of you, I am sure, are well aware that I hail from the North Coast where the sunny shores of Lake Erie allows for a thriving tourist and boating industry. What you may not know though is that the western basin of Lake Erie has the third largest concentration of boats in the U.S. only behind Marina Del Ray and Miami Beach. The boating industry accounts for \$3.6 billion in economic impact for the state of Ohio alone.

This bill also does more than just highlight a specific industry, it underscores the importance of maintaining a healthy environment and the necessity to keep Lake Erie clean. A clean Lake Erie is not only important for economic reasons but it provides a positive image for all Ohioans. Members of the committee, I ask for support and passage of this bill, so we can make that gem that is Lake Erie shine a little brighter.

I look forward to answering any questions that you may have. Thank you for your time.